The Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1876.

IF, as the Union Pacific Railroad Company represents to the Secretary of the Treasury, it has no net earnings to be taxed, by what means does it manage to declare dividends?

BEFORE the Alabama *State Journal* undertakes to enlighten the COMMERCIAL on any subject, whether with reference to political affairs in Alabama or otherwise, it should endeavor to overcome its chronic vice of wholesale stealing from these columns.

THERE is a general feeling of satisfaction over the prospect of an early appropriation by Congress of a million and a half to the Centennial. The money once voted, every enterprise prospectively connected with the Exhibition will take a fresh and more vigorous start.

AT THE opening of Congress the Democrats contended that FERRY was not President of the Senate, not having been elected at the opening of the session; now they claim that FERRY holds over from last winter and that the Senate has no power to turn him out. What a lot of contrary creatures they are!

THE initial movement in the Presidential campaign of this year will be made next week, when the National Executive Republican Committee will determine the time and place for holding the National Convention. Unless all the chances are deliberately flung away, the Republicans will carry the country by a rousing majority.

THE problem of managing cities is one of the greatest and most important questions of the age, and is just now regarded with absorbing interest by nearly all classes of society. Most of the municipalities of the country have reached the point of seeing the imperative necesity of improvement and reform—and that is the first step gained.

THE ex-Treasurer of Buffalo, who used $400,000 of the city's money, is spoken of by the mealy-mouthed papers as a "defaulter." If he had stolen but four dollars he would have been called a thief; and why not when he has stolen four hundred thousand? We shall have no relief from this defaulting mania until we learn to treat all such offenders as malefactors.

"THE Republicans will fool with the wounded soldier buncombe until it kicks." —*Cincinnati Enquirer*.

"To the victors belong the spoils," and the Democratic policy, judged from a logical standpoint, is all right. The Lower House of Congress is now bossed by Confederate brigadiers, and they would be very ungrateful if they failed to remember their old army associates. It is quite in accordance with the eternal fitness of things—and so will be the swift patriotic restitution of next fall.

CONWAY, the lecturer, intimates that if a suitable effort were made Professor HUXLEY could be persuaded to visit this country and abide with us awhile in behalf of the cause of "free inquiry" here. The Professor is unquestionably a man of large ability, but, like the negro pilot who had got past the star he was to set sail by, he has got past all Christianity to the vague speculations and assumptions of science. It is doubtful whether any solid and permanent intellectual gain would result to us from such a visit.

THE Republicans of New Hampshire begin the campaign of 1876 with a clear, ringing declaration against the third term. They say:

> Regarding as conclusive the President's declaration that he is not a candidate for renomination, and with profoundest gratitude for his patriotic services in both military and civil life, we reaffirm our unalterable opposition to the election of any President for a third term.

The President's declaration was not, to our mind, very conclusive; but the conclusiveness of the conclusion of that resolution is unmistakable.

THERE is evidently a growing feeling in Congress in favor of repealing or modifying the Resumption act. Representatives even of the manufacturing districts of New England report that their constituents look with great suspicion on any contraction of the currency, or on any of the measures proposed by Secretary BRISTOW to make the act of last January operative. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* intimates that several New England hard-money men have come back determined to vote against the legislation asked for by the President and Secretary.

MINNESOTA thrives in her frosty air. Her papers report that money is less "tight," business more active, and the people more confident than in almost any other locality. The reason is obvious. Minnesota is a producer of wealth, and the "balance of trade" is in her favor. Her productions, particularly wheat and flour, are of that class which the world must have and pay cash for. The wheat crop of last year has not been wholly marketed, yet it is estimated that at least fifteen million dollars in cash have been distributed throughout the State for sales of wheat alone since the harvest.

HERE is a suggestive little extract from one of the letters of JOHN ADAMS, written a hundred years ago, embraced in CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS' recently published collection of the familiar letters of the great Revolutionary statesman and his wife. It points a notable moral even in our day of rejoicing in the liberties which ADAMS and his compeers fashioned and founded:

> "There is not a sin which prevails more universally, and has prevailed longer, than prodigality in furniture, equipage, apparel and diet. And I believe that this vice, this sin, has as large a share in drawing down the judgments of Heaven as any."

THE House of Representatives at Harrisburg has abandoned its ground about the policy of resuming the consideration of the unfinished business of last session, and concurred with the Senate in a joint declaration that no bill pending at the adjournment shall be considered at this session unless re-introduced. Neither House yields its position, but the conclusion arrived at is practically the position maintained heretofore by the Senate. The course finally adopted was the wisest, under the circumstances; and as there can be but one more adjourned annual session, it was not worth while to fight over the establishment of a precedent.

There were 196 bills on the calendar of the House, undisposed of at the close of last winter's session, owing to the blundering folly of that body in neglecting its business; and it was the men interested in this unfinished business who made the fight for resuming work where the House left off last winter. They have finally yielded, and in yielding at this early stage of the session have shown more good sense than at any previous period of their legislative experience.

IT HAS been well said that there is a debauchery of words as well as of whisky. Rev. Dr. CUYLER, in a recent address on Temperance, affirmed that the United States "spends as much money annually for intoxicating drink as it does for all the bread it eats, all the clothes it wears, and all the books it reads." According to the census report of 1870, the value in that year of these three products was:

Articles of wear	$ 398,264,118
Food and food preparations	600,365,571
Books printed	3,568,823
Total	$1,002,198,512

While the value of the liquors produced in the United States during the same period was:

Distiled liquors	$36,191,133
Malt liquors	55,706,643
Vinous liquors	2,225,238
Total	$94,123,014

or less than one-tenth of the value of the articles named. Does Mr. CUYLER mean to say that there is ten times as much drinking in the country, now, as there was five years ago? The Detroit *Post* speaks wisely when it says, with reference to this matter:

> "The real evils of intemperance are bad enough without adding fictitious ones, and the explosion of the fictitious ones injures the influence of the real ones. They will be indiscriminately disbelieved, and the temperance cause will thereby be hindered and not advanced."

THERE is an ominous feeling of anxiety in England regarding the course of European events in the near future. A plan for defense against an invading army has lately been prepared, under which the country is divided into eight districts, to each of which a corps of 36,223 men, with 15,585 horses, 1,410 carriages, and ninety guns, is allotted. These eight corps, with the permanent garrisons, will number nearly 300,000 effective soldiers. The rendezvous of each corps is connected by rail and wire with those of the rest, and each can be brought within a few hours to any point on the coast. It is thought that such a force thus concentrated will be strong enough to prevent the landing of an enemy or invasion anywhere. The tax-payers, however, look aghast upon the enormous expense which the execution of the plan must necessarily, even in time of peace, entail. But it is not to be doubted that, while the voice and hearty wish of the English people is for peace, yet if the emergency should arise, they would respond to the occasion with all their old spirit. The power that forces war upon Great Britain may possibly have cause to rue its temerity, for it must not be forgotten that over a million of her sons have passed through the ranks of her volunteers, and that she counts more marksmen in her population than any other European nation.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

We have given the use of our columns, freely, to both the friends and opponents of the proposition to add technical education to the studies of the Pittsburgh High School and carry on that special branch at the expense of the State.

But, while freely conceding to the friends of this project the right to be heard, we are not to be understood as approving it. After looking at the question in its various aspects, we feel free to say that we are decidedly opposed to the project.

It may be well to state, before giving our reasons for this opposition, that we are convinced that no appropriation of the kind either can be or will be made this winter. The State cannot afford it. The revenue of the general fund of the State Treasury is now so restricted that the ordinary expenses of the government cannot be met. The salaries of the judges of the several courts, for the last quarter, have not been paid, and the members of the Legislature cannot obtain a cent upon their annual allowance. In the present condition of the finances of the State, such an appropriation is simply an impossibility.

It is barely possible that the Legislature may be brought to such a revision of our existing financial legislation as will enlarge the revenues of the general fund; but even if that were probable enough to be regarded as sure, it is not likely that the general fund will be made large enough to stand the drain upon it proposed by the project under consideration. For, in the first place, the deficiencies of the general fund for 1875 will have to be made up out of the revenues of 1876; and in the second place, several of our State reformatory institutions got no appropriations last year, and will have to have a double share this year. These two items of expense will eat up all the revenue that will, under the most favorable legislation, be likely to be obtained; and in the present economical temper of the Legislature, appropriations to new, or outside objects, will meet with little or no favor.

There would seem, consequently, to be little use in discussing the propriety of an appropriation that cannot be obtained; but as the question is one that will bear a great deal of discussion, and will press itself for consideration, whether we will or not, there can be no harm in keeping it before the public. The necessity for *something* to be done to secure the possibility of teaching trades to that portion of the rising generation willing and yet unable to learn them, is admitted; and the ways and means for carrying on such education, must, at some early day, be provided. *How* the money for such a purpose shall be raised, and how expended, is the problem to be solved; and the public mind must be familiarized with all the details of such a system before it can be put in operation. It is a new departure, and hence must be subjected to a patient scrutiny. The people will not, to use a Philadelphia phrase, "tumble to" such a project by a sudden impulse. Their reason must first be convinced.

Our reason for opposing this proposed appropriation to the High School is that that school is a mere local institution, for the exclusive benefit of those who graduate in the common schools of the city. Admission into it can be had only from or through the ward schools. Technical education, if the State can be brought to the point of furnishing it, will not be for the people of this city alone, but for the people of the whole of the Western part of the State. It would not be seemly to impart it through a mere local school; and we do not believe the State can be induced to give her money to keep up a school subject to purely local control. The State cannot be partial in her gifts. She cannot give Pittsburgh the exclusive advantage of such an expenditure. If she does not establish such a school herself, she must, at least, exact that the institution she selects to perform such a duty shall be in a position to open its doors wide and free to all, from any part of the State, who are willing to enter it and are qualified by previous training to enter upon technical studies.

The High School is not such an institution. It is already cramped for room, and admission to it is confined to the graduates of the ward schools. If a new building is to be erected to accommodate the students of technics, and the State is to furnish the money for its erection and for the maintenance of its teachers, the State may as well establish the school as a distinct State institution and maintain it as such. There would be nothing gained by the State by giving the money to a city institution; and while such an appropriation might enrich the school, it would not satisfy the people excluded from its benefits.

The importance of technical schools does not need to be demonstrated. That is not the issue. The real question is as to the *method* of their establishment and how they shall be kept up. The State may, at some early day, become able and willing to establish them and support them; but whenever she does, we feel certain she will make them the schools of the Commonwealth, with wide open doors and free from local influence or control.

Large bodies move slowly, and the agricultural portions of the community are not suffering to any appreciable extent from the lack of technical schools. It may, therefore, and it probably will, take several years' discussion to bring the State to the point of enlarging the scope of her system of education. In the meantime the subject is commended to popular consideration. The people are the source of all power, and until they are willing to take this stride in advance, the advance will not be made.

PERSONAL.

Lucy Larcom, finding literature not as profitable to her as it ought to be, has become instructress in a private school at Boston.

Cochrane, an Englishman, was the leader of the Abyssinians who lately overpowered and slaughtered a detachment of Egyptian troops.

The widow of the late George Grote has discovered among his papers a remarkable essay exhibiting the historian's opinions of Aristotle as a moral teacher. The essay will be published in a forthcoming collection of posthumous papers.

The Penn Club has taken steps to tender a reception to the Congress of American writers which will be gathered in Independence Hall on the 2d of July coming, under the auspices of the Independence Hall Restoration Committee. Over one hundred authors of distinction are expected to be present, leading off with such names as Bancroft, Whittier, Longfellow, Bryant, Holmes and a constellation of stars of lesser magnitude.

The free criticisms and ready promises of prisoners in search of pardons recall this little note, which Governor Andrew once received from a prisoner: "Hon. John A. Andrew, Governor: Dear Sir—I am here; sent by one Judge Brigham, for one year, for no fault of mine; and whereas my health is poorly, and prison life is a damage to me physically, mentally, morally and spiritually, therefore I pray and ask your clemency to have mercy on me and pardon me out; and, if it should ever come in my way, I will do as much for you."

Governor Peck, of Vermont, is a farmer. A kid-glove gent, the other day, called at his residence, and, inquiring for the Governor, was told he was out on the farm, where some men were at work clearing a new piece. The first man the chap reached was well blacked with the burnt logs and working like a beaver. The young gent accosted him with: "Say, old fellow, can you tell me where that old Governor Peck is? they told me down to the house he was out on the farm, and I want to see him." The "old fellow" replied: "He's about here somewhere." "Wal, if you can help me find the old cuss, I wish you would; I must see him," to which the Governor replied, "If you are in a hurry, you can talk to me." The young man scraped and bowed, made known his business and slunk away, doubtless satisfied that the next "old cuss" he met he should treat a little more civilly.

A grand work. In the past twelve years the American Missionary Association has expended about $3,000,000 in the education of colored children. Upward of 10,000 pupils have been taught in its schools annually, who in turn become teachers.

FROM CUMBERLAND, MD.

The Late Epidemic of Small-Pox.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.
CUMBERLAND, MD., January 7, 1875.

Your correspondent has spent the past week in this place, and while here had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Shindle, who so heroically undertook the treatment of the small-pox cases during the recent epidemic.

The first cases were by some mistaken for other diseases; but very soon it was discovered that it was small-pox, and of the most violent type of the loathsome disease, that had settled itself in the city. Prompt measures were taken by the authorties to have the entire population (13,000) vaccinated; but, as was to be naturally expected, many were missed, while in many more cases the vaccination was improperly performed. Dr. Shindle informed the writer that he had attended one hundred and fifty-seven cases of small-pox up to New Year's, when the disease was practically at an end. Of the whole number, thirty-two cases had resulted fatally.

In regard to vaccination, the Doctor feels perfectly well assured that it secures, when properly done, in every case, exemption from the disease. In no instance was there a fatal case of the disease where vaccination had taken perfectly at any time of life before, though a number of well-developed small-pox cases occurred among those who trusted to old vaccinations. Frequently it occured that persons had to be vaccinated three to five or more times before being secured. In other cases, particularly among children, vaccination was performed unsuccessfully on the same subject two or more times during the prevalence of the epidemic. In one case, not before vaccination, it was practiced after the symptoms of small-pox had become developed. "It was," as the Doctor said "a race between the vaccine and small-pox virus"—and won by the vaccine, for the case, very threatening at one time, passed into varioloid. Dr. Shindle has never had either small-pox or varioloid; keeping oneself well vaccinnated, he believes, is proof against the disease. The vaccine matter mostly employed in Cumberland is direct from the cow, though that passed through the system of a healthy child of pure blood is considered equally efficacious.

Every fatal case in Cumberland, we were informed, was preceded several days before death by the pustules sinking in the center, so that no mistakes in prejudging as to whether the disease would prove fatal or not were made when the case reached the time for this display for or against the patient. The disease appeared to have been more fatal among those whose systems were worn down by poor diet or broken by disease or intemperance. No other disease, as scrofula, tumors or eruptions of any kind, will avert or counteract small-pox. The small-pox poison is *sui generis*, and the only thing to be done when the disease "comes around" is to vaccinate—and this must be done persistently until it takes, and afterward at intervals until the disease disappears from the community.

Carbolic acid was placed in the money drawers to destroy, as far as possible, the germs of the disease that might cling to the currency. Dwelling houses where patients resided were marked to warn the public, and the bedding of the patients burned. But four cases of the disease were reported under treatment yesterday.

R.

[For the Pittsburgh Commercial.]

HAUNTED.

BY A. J. BONSALL.

The vast cathedral now is hushed and lonely,
The last footfall has sounded through the door,
The echoes of the singers' voices only
Are whispered faintly, slowly, o'er and o'er.

Against the stately medieval windows
Is richly poured the full moon's radiant light,
Which streams, subdued and chastened by the stainings,
Upon the grand old organ's massive height.

The arching roof is hung with densest shadows,
The altar is enveloped all with gloom;
Far down the aisles the somber shades are gathered;
Fantastic figures stretch across the room.

The vast cathedral now is hushed and lonely,
The white-robed priests and worshippers are gone;
Dead the last echoes of the singers' voices;
In nave and transept all is still and lone.

But now rings out upon this ghostly silence
The deep voiced organ's loudest, strongest peal,
In fierce, impassioned busts of mildest sorrow,
Of boisterous anguish, most intensely real.

With more than human passion thrills this wailing,
Far more than human eloquence it poures,
As though some wretched soul from Aidean banished,
Were crying the despair of Hades' hours.

Now swells the volume of sad music to its highest,
Now sinks it to a sighing, shivering moan;
Now sounds it fierce with deadly raging anger,
Now seems it like a dying giant's groan.

Still against the tall rich gothic windows,
Is softly poured the fair moon's silvery light,
Which streams, subdued and chastened by the stainings,
Upon the rare old organ's massive height.

No place is there for player to be hidden,
No place for trickster in mad revelrie,
And yet is seen no form of dead or living;
Yet is revealed no hand to sweep the key.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Let us all be better and things will be better.

Chili has adopted woman suffrage. Shake!

Somebody nominates Joyce for Centennial poet. But he is barred.

The estimated log product of Michigan for this year is 2,126,129,071 feet.

There is a Senator Doo-little and Representative Talk in most of our Legislatures.

The cry of "spoiled pork" comes up from many quarters of the overheated South.

The old effort to obtain possession of the Indian Territory will shortly be renewed in Congress.

Most of those who turned over a new leaf a week ago are carrying forward the old accounts.

An enterprising Kanuck wants to sell us his Quebec property for a monument to General Montgomery.

It is stated that the tunneling of the English channel will be commenced next April. On the first?

The centennial of the battle of the Brandywine is to be appropriately celebrated on the first of September.

The Mayor of Buffalo has a good watchword. He says: "The city's dollar should go as far as the citizen's."

Upward of three-quarters of a million of dollars' worth of postage stamps were sold in New York last quarter.

If it be true that Wilkes Booth is yet alive, as is maintained by some, now is his opportunity to come home.

The Governmental historic report upon the rebellion and the Union record of the war is progressing rapidly.

Small dealers in the "crooked" are now called "whisky ringlets" to distinguish them from full-grown ringsters.

Unprecedented. Navigation on the lakes still continues open, and shippers of grain eastward are pushing operations.

A Boston man has conferred a boon upon humanity which all womankind should take stock in. It is a darning machine.

Out in Indiana there is a debating society composed solely of shoemakers. They lately discussed the last end of man.

Europe admits that the United States is destined to become the great wheat country of the world, which is good news for our ears.

The first colored clergyman of the Reformed Episcopal Church has just been ordained by Bishop Cummins at Pineville, South Carolina.

An international regatta, under the auspices of the United States Centennial Commission, will take place in the harbor of New York, June 22.

So iniquitous have been the rascalities of the Chicago distillers that even the horns of the cattle fed upon the mash-refuse have grown crooked.

Is there no place like home? There are a hundred clubs in New York, and statistics prove that three-quarters of the members are married men.

The St. Louis *Republican* hints a fear that the Democratic party of Missouri is likely to be broken up by the conviction of claim forgers. It is sad.

The Philadelphia *Press* says the Fisk University building for colored students was "sung into existence." Mistake. The jubilee singers gave their notes for it.

Babcock is said to be growing nervous. There is no cause, if he is innocent. Lightning does not strike non-conductors, whether of whisky rings or otherwise.

The New York Supervising Steamboat Inspector says the law in respect to transportation of petroleum is unsatisfactory and ambiguous. Let Congress apply a remedy at once.

That proposed Congressional Commission to investigate and interview the Western grasshoppers, is simply a pretty little scheme for a dead-head summer Rocky Mountain tour.

Ah! A New York Democratic paper says Governor Tilden's message is "adorned with naked facts, instead of being robed in gorgeous eloquence." Clothed on with nothingness, as it were.

The average daily attendance of school children in New York is less than 120,000 out of a total taught during the year of 253,000. This is a frightful truancy and failure of the compulsory system.

RAILROAD OPENING.

First Passenger Train Over the Full Length of the Shenango and Allegheny Railroad—Importance of the Road—Speeches of Prof. Roth, Hon. J. C. McPherrin, Mr. Bovard and Others.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.
GREENVILLE, MERCER CO., PA., January 6th, 1876.

Deeply as you are interested in the development of the resources of Western Pennsylvania, it would be wrong not to tell you of the great railroad opening in the Centennial year.

That railroads manage to keep open, these dull days, is credit enough. What shall we think of one that not only keeps open what it has already constructed, but in addition builds and equips an extension and to-day celebrates the running of its first passenger train?

Yet such a road is our Shenango and Allegheny Railroad. Beginning at Greenville, on the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, and Erie and Pittsburgh Railroad, it extends through Mercer county and enters Butler near its northwestern corner. For some years past the eastern terminus of this railroad has been at Harrisville, Butler county. Last fall it was determined that the Shenango and Allegheny Railroad should be extended, and to-day our train ran over forty-seven and one-half miles of good road, more than one-fourth of which has been built within the last few months.

At nine o'clock a handsome coach left Greenville station on the Pittsburgh and Erie Railroad. Within was assembled a "goodlie companie." We noticed Hon. J. C. Brown, editor of the Greenville *Advance*; Mr. George A. Morgan, editor of the *Valley Argus*; A. L. Wick, W. J. Sutton, J. R. Packard, Bernard Herdrick, Mr. Glass, L. D. Brown, Hon. Jonah McPherrin, Wm. Achre, I. L. Weir, S. W. Manherner, Hon. Thomas H. Wells, H. B. Wick, W. B. Henry, John Keck, L. L. Keck, F. Grebble, C. M. Derrickson, John F. Hammond, E. T. Beatty, Reuben Williamson and others.

The day was a little raw, yet we saw one enterprising farmer busily turning the furrow, and many other new plowed fields testified that the recent warm spell had been diligently used. Fredonia was our first principal station. It is a new town. The houses are neat and the place looks thrifty with its stores, churches and mills.

Pardoe is the great coal and oil station. Eighty cars of oil is the daily shipping capacity of this point. Several pipe lines bring the oil from the wells. At New Hope the oil shipping will be hereafter done, and workmen are busy putting up the racks for this purpose. New Hope is on Slippery Rock creek, has a fine situation, good water power and mills, and will be a place of prominence in the near future. Hilliard's mills is the terminus of the railroad, and lines of coaches connect with Parker's Landing, Butler and adjacent points and regions.

The extension now ready for use opens up the coal and oil fields of Northwestern Butler county as never before. Nor will the richly timbered hills long retain that valuable covering. Both the Mercer and the Butler county mining and manufacturing companies will give the road abundant work for carrying their products to the markets of the West and Northwest.

It was near noon when we stood on the last tie and gave three cheers for the enterprising managers of the Shenango and Allegheny Railroad. We had stopped in the woods. There was no friendly call, "Twenty minutes for dinner." There was no groaning table, had there been so welcome a call. Sundry of our party began to feel an aching void and to wonder how it could be filled. Some looked for wintergreen, some for *shamrock*; but why? when the *real* rock lay scattered about in abundance. Fred. Greble, of the "National," was there: our regrets were that he had not the National's tempting board with him.

We were summoned to the front. A great basket of lunch put in its propitious appearance. Right speedily were its contents disposed of; the wonder yet remaining. Whatever could have come of it all!

Metaphorically, the covers were removed and a post-prandial organization was effected *above* the sacred soil of Butler county by calling A. D. Gillespie, Esq., the Chief Magistrate of Greenville, to the chair; Prince Williamson, of the Greenville Iron Works, was made Secretary, and Gus Wick, Treasurer.

John R. Packard, of the "Packard Boys," suggested that the past, present and future of Butler county be the topic of a speech, and called on Prof. Roth, of Thiel College, as a son of Butler county, for a response.

The Professor thought the topic too extensive for a short speech, and entirely beyond his powers, whether for calling up the past or foretelling the future. He had the honor of being born at Prospect, one of the most beautiful of the villages of Butler county. The county had existed long before he did. Though relatively a young man, he had seen bears and deer, and had hunted wild turkeys in this county. Now, however, the only wild things in the county are what the railroads bring in, and his hope was they would be removed by the same agency.

He had heard stories of soap mines, and it was currently reported that no respectable whip-poor-will would attempt to cross from Venango or Mercer into Butler county, without carefully loading itself with provision for the journey. Buckwheat was the great standby.

But things have changed. The rich coal and iron deposits; the wonderful hoards of oil and gas hid away beneath her surface; the timber on her hills; the limestone, fireclay and building stone which the county produces have attracted the attention of capital, and the dawn of a brighter day rises on the county.

It seems, too, that we stand on the verge of vast developments in the use of oil and natural gas, the results of which no man can foresee. Should men learn to use gas or oil in the making of iron and for other manufacturing purposes, the cost of production would be so greatly reduced that this region must become the mighty manufacturing center of the Western Continent, if not of the world. It is the fuel that costs. When gas or oil have come to be thoroughly understood, the raw material will be brought to the fuel, because of its cheapness, and the future of Western Pennsylvania, especially of this county, is assured. The day is not far distant when Butler county will take her fitting place among her sisters in the old Keystone, and that place will be near the first.

Nor should this railroad be forgotten in the bringing about of such a future. We have traveled over railroads in the swamps of Nova Scotia; they were literal *rail*roads—our cordaroy—woe betide the hapless passenger; but this road is not like that.

Some roads are notorious for their slowness; some for their accidents; some for shrewdness of their managers—no dividends for the stockholders. Our road is not so known. There are many roads of note—of *promissory note* unfortunately; but with an elephant (Oliphant) for General Superintendent, and a name so famous for rhetoric as J. T. Blair, if bonds are made they must be sold and the Shenango and Allegheny Railroad be a solid success. Its management have our hearty thanks for the kindness of to-day. They have our best wishes for abundant prosperity in the future.

Hon. J. C. McPherrin, now in Butler, but for many years a resident of Mercer county, expressed his gratification at what was doing in the development of the resources of Butler county.

Mr. Bovard, of New Hope, Butler county, a son of the venerable Judge Bovard, spoke for the county, and congratulated the road on its achieved success. He would meet it with a liberal hand.

Hon. J. C. Brown, of the Greenville *Advance*, rejoiced that people could build railroads whenever they wished. This road was an evidence of the advantage of a free railroad law.

Mr. T. H. Wells, of Youngstown, Ohio, made as happy a speech and as extended as circumstance allowed, the train being on the point of pulling out and himself for sundry reasons too full for utterance.

Soon the return was made, and with three cheers for J. T. Blair, Superintendent, and F. H. Oliphant, Jr., General Manager, the right men in the right place, our excursionists departed. We will not soon forget the day. Greenville will always have abundant reason to remember the extension. It brings wares and merchants to her markets, and adds continually to the solid wealth and advantages for which she is fast gaining reputation.

X.

STATE NEWS.

Lancaster's new high school building was dedicated on Monday.

Rev. Morris Wetherin, rabbi of the Reading Jewish congregation, has resigned.

During the warm days of last week, boys went swimming in the streams near Pottstown.

The Berks county farmers are employing private watchmen to guard them against robbery.

Dr. L. Robins, of Elysburg, died suddenly on Friday, from the effects of overeating and drinking.

The receipts of Berks county from taxes, etc., in 1875 were $204,403 63, and the expenditures $195,830 70.

Mrs. Maria Frederick, aged eighty-two, and Mrs. Elizabeth Reiss, aged eighty-five, died in Allentown last Friday.

Owing to lack of snow and changeableness of the weather, the grain fields in some of the eastern and central counties look badly.

Henry S. Wharton, a leading business man of Huntingdon, has made an assignment. His liabilities are estimated at about $95,000, and his assets from $50,000 to $60,000.

The West Chester *Local News* appeared on Saturday with the stars and stripes printed in appropriate colors on its first page, with the legend "1776—Centennial Greeting—1876."

The police of Philadelphia made 34,553 arrests during 1875, of which 12,500 were for unadorned drunkenness, 8,245 for drunkenness and disorderly conduct and 4,385 for breaches of the peace.

Christopher Harpster died in Frankstown township, Blair county, on the 30th ult., in his ninety-fifth year. He leaves behind him two of a family of eight children, one hundred and twenty great grandchildren, and nine great-great grandchildren.

The Ziller mansion, in Marion township, Berks county, built in 1772 by Hannes and Kattarine Ziller, is still in good condition, and occupied by the fourth generation of the family. The house looks as if it would stand the storms of another century.

The Erie *Dispatch* celebrates the Centennial year by coming out in a spick-and-span new dress. Intellectually and typographically it is now as bright as a silver dollar just from the mint, and shows marked evidence of deserved financial prosperity.

A resident of a neighboring town was much troubled with rats, and having been informed that guinea pigs would destroy them, he bought several and placed them where the rodents were thickest. The next morning he found the cellar strewn with dead—guinea pigs.

Flocks of wild pigeons have passed over Cambria county within a few days past, going northward. In the craws of some of them shot on Monday, grains of rice were found, indicating that they had come from South Carolina. It is an unusual thing for them to migrate to the north at this time of year.

A horse belonging to Robert K. Collam, of Oxford, Chester county, died on Christmas day in the thirty-fifth year of its age, having been in the possession of the same family for twenty-seven years. The horse was of the female gender, and during her long and useful life gave birth to nineteen colts.

This morning, as Pat Keefe, who lives at the corner of Center and White streets, got out of bed, he put his hand in his pants pocket, and drawing a revolver therefrom, pointed it (for fun, we suppose) at the head of a stranger who was sleeping with him. Just as he remarked, "How would you like to have this?" the weapon was discharged, the ball striking the stranger in the left eye, taking an outward course and lodging in the back of his head.—*Shenandoah Herald*.

The *Eagle* did some advertising for the city of Reading, charging at the regular rates. The bill therefor was sent to Councils, and was indorsed by one committee as correct, but another took it upon itself to cut the amount down, no one claiming, however, that the charges were not just and equitable. The proprietor of the *Eagle* refused to stand the "shave," and brought suit against the city for the amount of the bill as originally rendered. The case was heard on Monday, and a judgment given in favor of the *Eagle*. It looks as if the Councilmen who opposed the payment of the bill had been animated by petty spite.

The Pottsville *Daily Miners' Journal* on Saturday occupied for the first time their new building, a magnificent structure, 120 feet front, 60 feet deep and four stories in height. The building is built of pressed brick, lined in black mortar and ornamented with English tiles. A large statue of Benjamin Franklin surmounts the main entrance, and a beautiful fountain, the gift of George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, is being attached to the extreme left of the facade. The building has its own coal, gas and water works, the latter being supplied by a spring on the premises. It is one of the largest and handsomest structures in that section.

An experimental shipment of a cargo of lumber from the Calcasieu river, La., direct to Liverpool, has proved highly remunerative to consigners and consignees, and it is expected that before next summer a heavy and permanent direct lumber trade will be inaugurated.

Elements of Bone, Brain and Muscle.

The food contains the elements of bone, brain and muscle, and in a healthy system, properly nourished, the manufacture of these bodily constituents is uninterrupted, night or day. On the other hand when digestion or assimilation are imperfect, the manufacture is hindered, and the destructive not being counteracted by the reparative processes of Nature, the system is threatened with early decay. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are peculiarly fitted to overcome the causes which lead to an untimely decadence of the vital energies, removing as they do all obstacles to complete digestion and assimilation of the food, and restraining an undue waste of physical substance. For the loss of strength consequent upon depleting diseases, they are the best possible remedy, and their bracing effects upon the system enable it to withstand hurtful atmospheric influences inductive of malaria.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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We offer a Special Bargain in Latest Patterns in
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New Styles in Wool Serge Plaids,
A REAL BARGAIN.
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At present we are also offering Special Low Prices for fine assortments of
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At a Very Low Price.
Fine Colored Cashmeres, Merinos and Drap D'Ete, Irish and Silk Poplins and Repps.
Extra Good Value in
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All qualities and grades.
Full and complete line of
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At the lowest prices.
Real good bargains in Black and Colored
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The very best value for the money, from 75c to $3 50 per yard.
Our stock is very complete in every description of Dress Fabrics, and Special Bargains for this month are now on our counters.

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LADIES' READY MADE SUITS,
Black and colored, made and trimmed in the best of style. Special attention to Suits made to order.
Closing at a bargain a few
REAL SEAL SKIN SACQUES,
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All grades and kinds of
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The very lowest prices for
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All sizes and fine assortment of styles.
A large and beautiful variety of new styles of
SHAWLS,
At lowest prices.
Beaver and Rough Cloth Sacqueings,
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characterized by a general languor or weakness of the whole organism, especially of the nervous system, obstructing and preventing the ordinary functions of nature; hence there is a disordered state of the secretions; constipation, scanty and high-colored urine with an excess of earthy or limey sediment, indicative of waste of brain and nerve substance, frequent palpitations of the heart, loss of memory, and marked irresolution of purpose, and inability to carry into action any well defined business enterprise, or to fix the mind upon any one thing at a time. There is great sensitiveness to impress, though retained but a short time, with a flickering and fluttering condition of the mental faculties, rendering an individual what is commonly called a whiffle-minded, or fickle-minded man.
This condition of the individual, distressing as it is, may, with a certainty, be cured by
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Ever placed before the people, and are warranted to be the most Powerful Alterative ever originated by man, removing Morbid Sensibility, Depression of Spirits, Dementia, and Melancholia.
Each package of the Cordial Balm contains one box of the Tonic Pills, which may also be had separately at 50 cents per box.

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Continues to afford reliable special treatment in all Private and Urinary Diseases. Perfect cures guaranteed. Spermatorrhœa or Seminal Weakness, resulting from self-abuse or sexual excess, producing nervous debility, night emissions, despondency, dizziness, dimness of sight, pimples on the face, weakness of mind and body, and final impotency, loss of sexual power, sterility, &c., unfitting the victim for marriage or business, and rendering life miserable, are permanently cured in shortest possible time. Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Stricture, all Urinary diseases and Syphilis, (all forms), consisting of skin eruptions, ulcers, &c., are perfectly cured and the blood-poison thoroughly eradicated from the system. DR. WHITTIER is a regular graduate of medicine, as his diploma at office shows; his lifelong special experience in all private diseases, with purest medicine prepared by himself, enables him to cure difficult cases after others fail—it is self-evident that a physician treating thousands of cases every year acquires great skill. Consultation and correspondence private and free. Pamphlet sent sealed for stamp. Medicines sent everywhere. Hours 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. and 6 to 8 P. M. Sundays from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M.
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NO CURE, NO PAY.
Gleet, Stricture, Orchitis, Hernia, Syphilis, Gonorrhœa, and all urinary diseases, and Syphilitic or Mercurial affections of the Throat, Skin or Bones, are cured in the shortest possible time that will insure permanent relief. Spermatorrhœa, or Seminal Weakness and impotency, the result of self-abuse in youth, or excess in maturer years, and which produce some of the following effects, as emissions, blotches, debility, dizziness, nervousness, dimness of sight, cough, indigestion, constipation, despondency, confusion of ideas, aversion to society, loss of memory and sexual power, and which unfits the victim for business or marriage, are thoroughly and permanently cured. A medical circular relating to private diseases, sent in sealed envelope for one stamp. All communications confidential. Address
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